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The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

WFP News Video

AMADOU & MARIAM: Ambassadors

against hunger for WFP and the European Union

Shot: 9 April 2011

TRT 2:41

English/French

:00-:12 Haiti, Port-Au-Prince, Carrefour, Lamentin 54 Section, shot on April 9, 2011 Cash/Food for Work project – Rubble Removal.

:12-1:00 SOT Amadou and Mariam in French.

English translation:

"We are here to experience the reality of life on the ground, in Haiti, and speak with the people. As Ambassadors against hunger, our role here is to talk about the things we have seen, but also to play music and take part in a concert. The aim is to raise awareness about the problems Haitians face in their everyday life, and talk about the work of WFP as well as the strong support of the European Union and ECHO for this initiative. We are trying to raise awareness through all means, but mostly through songs. Because songs reach out to a lot more people than speeches".

1:00-01:19 Haiti, Port-Au-Prince, shot on April 9, 2011. GV of workers walking on streets and carrying buckets on their heads, rubbles at the Presidential palace

1:19-01:35 Haiti, Port-Au-Prince, Camp L'Aviation, Shot on April 8, 2011. GV of refugee camp

01:35-01:44 Haiti, Port-Au-Prince, Camp L'Aviation, Shot on April 8, 2011 Amadou and Mariam walk through refugee camp

01:44-2:00 Haiti, Port-Au-Prince, Centreville, School Feeding Programme, Centre Rosalie Javoueh. Mariam picks up a baby in the feeding centre. Amadou and Mariam sitting.

2:00-2:10 Mariam and Amadou briefed at school feeding center, GV of babies and mothers

2:10-2:40 Mariam and Amadou sing with children at the school feeding

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WFP News Release

13 April 2011

AMADOU & MARIAM: AMBASSADORS AGAINST HUNGER FOR WFP AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

Rome - The United Nations World Food Programme ([WFP](#)) today announced the internationally acclaimed Malian singers Amadou & Mariam as WFP Ambassadors against Hunger for the European Union.

The award-winning musicians are the first WFP Ambassadors dedicated to raising awareness among the European public of the scourge of global hunger and efforts to tackle it by WFP and the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO).

"Amadou and Mariam have supported WFP's work for several years and we know how important their message of solidarity, encouragement and hope is to millions of hungry people around the world," said Gemmo Lodesani, Director of WFP's office in Brussels.

"The humanitarian commitment of Amadou and Mariam makes them powerful voices in the fight against hunger. Their ambassadorship is also an important tool to highlight the vital partnership that exists between WFP and ECHO," said Peter Zangl, Director General of ECHO.

Amadou & Mariam have just returned from [Haiti](#) where they visited WFP projects funded by the European Union. The visit gave the two musicians an opportunity to meet pregnant and nursing women and their children receiving specialized nutrition products in the health clinic of Camp l'Aviation, where some 25,000 Haitians displaced after the January 2010 earthquake still live.

"Hunger is a problem not only in Haiti. Hunger is a problem for millions of people across the world and it is a problem for all of us. We are happy to be able to fight together with ECHO and WFP to make sure that nobody goes to bed hungry," said Amadou during a visit to projects in Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince.

Amadou & Mariam also visited a cash and food for work project in Carrefour, one of the worst-hit areas of Port-au-Prince, where a group of women is rebuilding the community with the support of ECHO and WFP.

"Being a mother myself, it has touched me deeply to meet these Haitian women. I am very happy to experience how they are staying strong and I encourage them to continue," Mariam said afterwards

The visit of Amadou & Mariam concluded with a concert at which they were joined by famous Haitian musicians, James Germain, and Beken at the *Institut Français d'Haïti* in Port-au-Prince.



ECHO and WFP have developed a strong partnership. In 2010, ECHO supported WFP's response in 34 crises, aimed to meet the basic nutritional needs of the affected population, particularly those of women and children.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. Each year, on average, WFP feeds more than 90 million people in more than 70 countries.

WFP now provides RSS feeds to help journalists keep up with the latest press releases, videos and photos as they are published on WFP.org. For more details see: <http://www.wfp.org/rss>

Video footage is available. Please contact marco.frattini@wfp.org

WFP has a dedicated ISDN line in Italy for quality two-way interviews with WFP officials.

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